(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether backlog in recruitments and promotions in all the Banks are cleared in respect of SC/ST candidates; and

(d) what special measures have been taken to fill up the backlog in higher scales?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have not issued instructions for providing office accommodation with or without the ancillary facilities to any of the Unions/Associations including Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Welfare Associations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Except in Syndicate Bank on the basis of the Supreme Court judgement and a few banks where there are seniority based promotions up to scale-III promotions within officers cadres of the banks are selection based and therefore, do not attract reservations for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

Inclusion of SC/ST Associations in Policy making bodies

3721. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SC/ST employees Associations in Banks have not been recognised by Government, if so, the reasons therefore; and

(b) what steps have been taken to include representatives of SC/ST Association in the policy making bodies of banks as is being done in case of general associations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As a policy, no association of employees based on caste, creed, religion, etc. is recognised.

(b) All the public sector banks and financial institutions have been advised to associate, with the process of negotiations on service matters of bank employees, on SC/ST officer of adequate seniority, if available in the bank. If such a suitable SC/ST officer is not available, the banks could associate the Liaison Officer for SCs and STs in the bank for the purpose.

Opposition to Indian Association for Soft Loan from Asian Development Bank

3722. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States has opposed India's application to the Asian Development Bank for soft loan facility; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Asian Development Fund Donors' discussions on replenishment of ADF-VI (soft loan) for the period 1992--1995 were concluded in the meeting held in London on 9-10 December, 1991. Given the needs of traditional ADF recipients and other eligible borrowers and the limited size of funds available, the donors which included United States concluded that it would not be possible to make ADF resources available to India during ADF-VI period.

केन्द्रीय उत्पाद और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड का पुनर्गठन

3723. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केंद्रीय उत्पाद और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड का पुनर्गठन किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रस्तावित पुनर्गठन योजना की मुख्य-मुख्य विशेषताएं क्या हैं ;

(ग) इस संबंध में अंतिम निर्णय कब तक ले लिए जाने की संभावना है ; और